computer training institutes meeting the defined quality and service standards would be given accreditation for conducting certain specified courses viz. O(Foundation), A(Advance Diploma) B(Graduate) and C(Post-Graduate) levels computer courses. While the procedure for accreditation in Hindi or any other Indian language would be identical, no such application has been received so far. The preparation of instruction material and training of teachers is the responsibility of individual institutes.

(c) In addition to the 132 institutes already accredated, applications from another 136 institutes are under scrutiny.

Types of Hindi Keyboard Layouts

604. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the different types of keyboards layouts of Hindi which are use;

(b) whether there is any standard keyboard layout;

(c) whether it is a fact that a Hindi typists practice on both the mechanical keyboard layout and different computer keyboard layout for the same Devnagari script;

(d) if not, whether there is any plan to introduce mechanical keyboard on computers in Government Departments; and

(e) what would be the prices of mechanical typewriters *vis-a-vis* computers with the data processing facility in Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) There are mainly three different types of keyboard layouts in the use of Hindi.

(b) The Department of Electronics has proposed a standard layout for the multi lingual key board in 1986. This standard is being followed by a number of manufacturers.

(c) Yes, Sir. Practice, both on mechanical key board and computer key board, for the same devanagari script is required in case a Hindi typist uses both mechanical typewriters and computers.

(d) There is no plan to introduce mechanical keyboard on computers in Government Departments.

(e) The average price of the mechanical typewriters is Rs. 12,000/- approximately where as the price for computers with bilingual processsing capabilities with minimum configuration is Rs. 21,000/- approximtely. However, the computer has additional facilities such as storing of the documents, editing merging, duplication, automatic spelling checking etc. part from the processing capabilities which are not available in the mechanical typewriters.

Computerisation of Hindi Books in Dev-Nagari Script

605. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to computerise the libraries of Government Departments and their Undertakings;

(b) if so, whether any provision has been made for computerising Hindi books in Devanagari script; and

(c) if so, what is the time bound programme for such a mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As a part of computerisation of government departments serviced by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), large libraries are being given computer based support. There is no scheme of computerisation of libraries.